

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 TRSY-02 OMB-01 DHA-02 CU-02 BIB-01 /066 W
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R 300948Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8200
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMCONSUL ZURICH
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUDAPEST 1036

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, HU, SHUM, CZ
SUBJECT: CZECH FOREIGN MINISTER VISIT AND HUNGARIAN ATTITUDE ON EAST
EUROPEAN DISSIDENCE

REF: BUDAPEST 0996

1. ACCORDING TO KNOWLEDGEABLE AUSTRIAN EMBASSY SOURCE, DURING
VISIT OF CZECHOSLOVAKIAN FOREIGN MINISTER CHNOUPEK TO HUNGARY
MARCH 7-9, COOL EXCHANGE TOOK PLACE BETWEEN KADAR AND CHNOUPEK
WHICH CAST PALLOR ON WHOLE VISIT. CHNOUPEK ON BEHALF OF CZECHS
IS REPORTED TO HAVE ASKED KADAR FOR MORE MEANINGFUL SUPPORT OF
CZECHOSLOVAKIAN REGIME'S STRUGGLE AGAINST CHARTER 77 GROUP AND
MORE ACTIVE CONDEMNATION OF WESTERN PROPAGANDA ATTACKS ON HUMAN
RIGHTS. KADAR SAID TO HAVE SUGGESTED AS TACTFULLY AS HE COULD
THAT CZECHS SHOULD CHANGE TACTICS IN DEALING WITH DISSIDENTS,
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BY ENTERING INTO QUIET, UNPUBLICIZED DIALOGUE WITH SOME
OF LESS RABID AMONG THEM.

2. AUSTRIAN ALSO ACKNOWLEDGED THAT AUSTRIAN EMBASSIES
IN SOFIA AND BUCHAREST HAD REPORTS ORIGINATING FROM
YUGOSLAVS AND COOROBORATING VERSION OF SOFIA MEETING
OF SECRETARIES OF CENTRAL COMMITTEES OF WP COMMUNIST

PARTIES GIVEN BY YUGOSLAV EMBASSY HERE (REFTEL). THESE REPORTS WERE TO EFFECT THAT HUNGARIANS HAD OPPOSED CZECH AND SOVIET PROPOSALS FOR STRONG STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR CZECH HANDLING OF CHARTER 77 DISSIDENTS AND STRONGER OFFENSIVE AGAINST WEST IN CONTEXT OF HUMAN RIGHTS DEBATE.

3. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH COMMUNIQUE AFTER CHNOUPEK VISIT HAD CUSTOMARY PAEANS TO CZECH AND HUNGARIAN FRIENDSHIP AND IDENTITY OF VIEWS, IT MADE NO DIRECT REFERENCE TO CHARTER 77 OR TO HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES NOR DID IT SEEM PARTICULARLY WARM. PUBLICITY FOR VISIT WAS SOMEWHAT SUBDUED. EMBASSY TENDS TO ACCEPT AUSTRIAN REPORT OF KADAR-CHNOUPEK INTERVIEWS AS ACCURATE AND REFLECTING CURRENT FROSTY STATE OF CZECH-HUNGARIAN RELATIONS. MUDD

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